

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

RONDEAU et al.

Appln. No.: 09/922,237

Filed: August 6, 2001

Title: FENDER STRUCTURE FOR AN ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE

Confirmation No.: 7574

Group Art Unit: 3618

Examiner: Gerald B. Klebe

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January 27, 2004

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated August 27, 2003, the date for response to which has been extended to January 27, 2004, by the enclosed Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time and Fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks:

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the raised support portions such that they define over Gagnon et al. The Applicants respectfully submit that the raised support portions identified by the Examiner do not define at least one raised support plane as now claimed. As a result, the Applicants respectfully submit that Gagnon et al. does not describe each and every feature as recited by the claims and, therefore, cannot anticipate the claims.

In addition, the Applicants respectfully submit that neither Tsutsumikoshi et al. nor Tarahomi describe or suggest this feature in combination with the remaining features recited by the claims. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that these two references cannot be combined properly with Gagnon et al. to render obvious any of claims 3-12, 15-24, 26-36, and 39-47. Accordingly, the claims are patentable thereover.

All rejections and objections have been addressed. It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions or concerns regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

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